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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/556,279	04/24/2000	Richard L. Hasha	40062.62US01	7999
23552	7590	04/27/2005	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			DINH, KHANH Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2151	
DATE MAILED: 04/27/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Supplemental
Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/556,279

Examiner

Khanh Dinh

Applicant(s)

HASHA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/25/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,10,12-16,19-26,28-33,36,38-42,44,46 and 47.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 April 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joshua W. Korver (Reg. No.51,984) on 4/25/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **replace** claim 26 as follows:

26. (Fourth amended) A system for supporting communication between devices connected to a shared media, the devices being a part of a consumer electronic appliance, the system comprising

a device coupled to the shared media, wherein the device is configured to send and receive messages over the shared media;

an address space arbiter (ASA) coupled to the shared media, the ASA being configurable to form a logical network with one or more devices connected to the shared media and to discover a device on the shared media by:

receiving a message from the device over the shared media;

comparing information associated with the device included in the message to information associated with devices in an acquired device table, the acquired device table being arranged to include information associated with devices that are members of the logical network; and

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adding information associated with the device to an announced device table if the information is not stored in the acquired device table and the device is unacquired, wherein the announced device table includes information associated with discovered but unacquired devices; and
an acquisition authority (AA) at least intermittently coupled to the ASA, wherein the AA is configured to selectively authorize the ASA to add a device to the logical network,
and wherein the AA is further configured to detect an inactive device by:
comparing an elapsed time since the device last transmitted a message over the shared media to a predetermined maximum inactive time limit
sending a message to the device,
monitoring the shared media for a valid message from the device that is responsive to the message,
removing the device from the logical network if the elapsed time exceeds the maximum inactive time limit, and
resetting the elapsed time if the device transmits a valid responsive message over the shared media within a predetermined time period,
wherein the logical network has a logical network ID, the ASA and any device[[s]] of the logical network are configured to be responsive to messages sent over the shared media that are addressed to the logical network.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 12-16, 19-26, 28-33, 36, 38-42, 44, 46 and 47 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
None of the cited prior art discloses or teaches a method of communication between devices on a shared media, the shared media being configurable to support communication within one or more logical networks, each logical network having a logical network ID and each device having a globally unique identifier, a

logical network identifier, and a logical device identifier comprising a combination of: adding information associated with the device to an announced device table if the information is not stored in the acquired device table and the device is unacquired, wherein the announced device table includes information associated with discovered but unacquired devices comparing an elapsed time since the device last transmitted a message over the shared media to a predetermined maximum inactive time limit. The invention further discloses monitoring the shared media for a valid message from the device that is responsive to the message; removing the device from the logical network if the elapsed time exceeds the maximum inactive time limit and resetting the elapsed time if the device transmits a valid responsive message over the shared media within a predetermined time period.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Dinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-3936. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.m. to 5:00 P.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung, can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval IPAIRI system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For

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more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Khanh Dinh
Patent Examiner
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4/25/2005